REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4-40 are pending. Claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, and 4-14 have been amended. New claims 20-39 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 15-19

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 15-19.

Claims 27-35

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 3-8, 10, and 11 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Prior claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 27. Thus, claim 27 and claims 28-33 depending therefrom are allowable. Prior claim 10 has been rewritten as new claim 34, while prior claim 11 has been rewritten as new claim 35. Therefore, claims 34 and 35 are allowable.

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, and 20-25

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 as amended is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that the first storage system stores update data to be stored in the first logical volume into at least one of third logical volumes, and transfers the update data stored in the at least one of third logical volumes to the second storage system via the communication line in such a way that the second computer is not in a transport path of the transferred update data from the first storage system to the second storage system; the second storage system stores the transferred update data into the second logical volume; and the at least one of the third logical volumes is switched to another one of the third logical volumes during the remote copy process.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1, and claims 2, 4-11, and 20-25 depending therefrom, are patentable.

Claims 12-14

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 as amended is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that the first storage system stores update data to be stored in the first logical volume into at least one of third logical volumes, the first computer acquires information related to the update data stored in the at least one of third logical volumes from the first storage system and transmits the information to the second computer via the first communication line, the second storage system stores the transferred update data into the second logical volume; and the at least one of the third logical volumes is switched to another one of the third logical volumes during the remote copy process.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 12, and claims 13-14 depending therefrom, are patentable.

Claim 26

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 26 is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that the first storage system receives update data sent from the host computer and stores the update data into the first logical volume and transfers the update data to the second storage system such a way that the second computer is not in a transport path of the transferred update data from the first storage system to the second storage system; the second storage system stores the transferred update data into at least one of third logical volumes and reads the stored update data from the at least one of third logical volumes and writes the read update data to the second logical volume; and the at least one of the third logical volumes is switched to another one of the third logical volumes during the remote copy process.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 26 is patentable.

Claims 36-40

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 36 as amended is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that when the update data is being transferred from the first storage system to

the second storage system, the first storage controller, while the update data is being stored in a certain logical volume of the first storage system, switches a logical volume for storage to another logical volume of the first storage device, and the second storage controller, while the update data is being transferred to a certain logical volume of the second storage device, switches a transfer-target logical volume to another logical volume of the second storage device.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 37 as amended is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that the second storage system acquires information related to update data recorded in the first storage system, and the second storage system issues a command requesting the first storage system to send the update data; and the update data recorded in a storage device of the first storage system is stored in a plurality of logical volumes, a logical volume for storage is switched to another logical volume, while the update data is stored in a certain logical volume, and the switching is made at a time when a command for requesting dispatch of the update data is received from the second storage system.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 37 and claim 38 depending therefrom are patentable.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 39 as amended is novel and patentable over Takeda et al. (US 2004/0172509) because, for instance, Takeda et al. does not teach or suggest that the second storage system acquires information related to update data recorded in the first storage system, and the second storage system issues a command requesting the first storage system to send the update data; and the transferred update data in the second storage system is stored in a plurality of logical volumes, a transfer-target logical volume is switched to another logical volume, while the update data is transferred to a certain logical volume, and the switching is made at a time when the update data transfer is started at the first storage system.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 39 and claim 40 depending therefrom are patentable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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